Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 01706 260507Z ACTION SCS-06

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FOR H AND SCS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, BA, QA, (VARJABEDIAN, JOHN)

SUBJECT: EXHUMATION AND SHIPMENT OF REMAINS OF JOHN VARJABEDIAN

REF: STATE 186292

- 1. CONGRESSMAN BRODHEAD INTERESTED
- 2. WE WILL TAKE UP QUESTION OF WAIVING TEN-YEAR WAITING PERIOD BEFORE EXHUMING REMAINS OF JOHN VARJABEDIAN WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES WHEN GOVERNMENT OFFICES OPEN TOMORROW.
- 3. IT MUST BE BORNE IN MIND, HOWEVER, THAT AUTHORIZATION FOR SHIPPING THESE REMAINS IS NOT WHOLLY GOB'S TO GRANT. AIRLINES IMPOSE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS AS DOES USG. ONE SUCH REQUIREMENT IS SWORN STATEMENT BY PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES THAT BODY HAS BEEN EMBALMED AND IS FIT FOR AIR TRANSPORTATION. SUCH A STATEMENT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE IN PRESENT CASE AS CAUSE FOR EMERGENCY BURIAL IN BAHRAIN WAS DETERMINED BY PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES THAT BODY HAD NOT BEEN PROPERLY EMBALMED, AND WAS ALREADY SERIOUSLY DECOMPOSING.

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4. IF, THEREFORE, WAIVER IS GRANTED AND ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR EXHUMATION, WE WILL UNDERTAKE TO ATTEMPT TO GET AIRLINE CONCURRENCE FOR SHIPPING REMAINS. DEPT SHOULD BEGIN TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES FOR WAIVING US PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS GOVERNING IMPORTATION OF UNEMBALMED REMAINS.

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Subject: EXHUMATION AND SHIPMENT OF REMAINS OF JOHN VARJABEDIAN

TAGS: CDES, BA, QA, (VARJABEDIAN, JOHN)

To: STATE Type: TE

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